



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia is committed to helping small businesses expand and create jobs; and

WHEREAS: Small businesses are important to the growth and success of Georgia's economy and are responsible for employing nearly half of Georgia's workforce; and

WHEREAS: Georgia's agencies are currently required to offer information about procurement opportunities with the state; and

WHEREAS: The process to enter into procurement contracts with the state can be difficult for small businesses to navigate; and

WHEREAS: The Department of Administrative Services ("DOAS") provides various opportunities for small businesses to learn and participate in the state procurement process such as the Small Business Procurement Readiness Workshop series, the Small Business Symposium series, and the Minority Business Enterprise certification process; and

WHEREAS: DOAS has the statutory duty to administer the state procurement process pursuant to Code Section 50-5-51, *et seq.*

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That DOAS shall create the position of Small Business and Supplier Diversity Manager and create a position to facilitate communications and engagement with minority-owned small businesses.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That DOAS shall schedule and hold regular meetings with representatives from small business community stakeholders and small business development partners, including chambers of commerce in order to help

better understand the challenges faced by small businesses and identify obstacles to participation in the state procurement process.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: Through these meetings, DOAS shall increase active outreach efforts to the small business community with a particular focus on the minority-owned, women-owned, and veteran-owned business community - these efforts shall include, but are not limited to, supplier education and training.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That DOAS shall coordinate with the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Director of Small Business Outreach and other small business development partners, such as the University of Georgia's Small Business Development Center Multicultural Business Division, to hold these regular meetings and increase active outreach efforts to the small business community.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: By October 31, 2022, DOAS shall issue a report which provides specific recommendations to implement which will assist in making the state procurement process more easily accessible to small businesses.

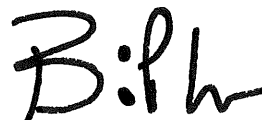
IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That this Order shall be effective upon signature.

This 13TH day of July 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Harris", is written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR